

REMARKS

Claims 9-25 are pending in the application. Claims 18-25 stand allowed. The Examiner objects to claims 10, 11 and 13-17. Claims 9 and 12 stand rejected, and claims 10, 11 and 13-17 stand allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims. The drawings are accepted. The Examiner's objections and rejections are addressed below in substantially the same order as in the office action.

Claim 9 is amended to include the elements of allowable claim 10, and claim 10 is cancelled without prejudice. No new matter is added.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC § 102

Claims 9 and 12 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Moutray, III (US 4,470,456). Claim 9 is amended to include the elements of claim 10, which the Examiner recognizes as being allowable. Original claim 10 is cancelled without prejudice. Rejected claim 12 depends from amended claim 9. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 9 and 12 be withdrawn.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant appreciates that claims 18-25 are allowed.

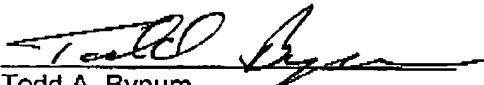
Claims 10, 11, and 13-17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but will be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 10 is cancelled, and claims 11 and 13-17 each have amended claim 9 as a base claim. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment overcomes the objections.

CONCLUSION

For all the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that the application is in a condition for allowance. No fee is believed due for this paper. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-0429 (414-26216-USD).

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I do hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile, to the Commissioner for Patents, Examiner John J. Kreck, facsimile no. (703) 872-9306, on this 6th day of April, 2005.


Beth Pearson-Naul